

ABSTRACT

In one embodiment, a method for retrieving documents from a computer network includes receiving an indication of a document selection performed by a user and, upon receiving this indication, displaying to the user a list of available data exchange modes. The document selection identifies a desired file reference that is contained within a document displayed to the user. The method further includes determining a data exchange mode that the user chose specifically for the desired file reference and ensuring that a request to retrieve data associated with the desired file reference from a server conforms to the data exchange mode chosen by the user. In one embodiment, the request to retrieve data is directed to a network server storing the data. Alternatively, the request to retrieve data is directed to a proxy server which modifies the request in accordance with the data exchange mode chosen by the user.

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